



Energy Fellows Program

2023 Student Profiles

Name: Juliana Cerullo

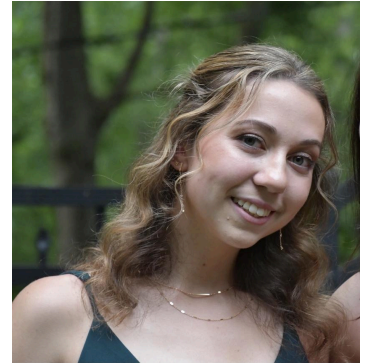
Hometown: Walpole, Massachusetts

Degree Program: B.S. Environmental and Natural Resource Economics

Expected Graduation: May 2025

Mentor Organization: Rhode Island Commerce Corporation

Juliana's work with the RI Commerce Corporation supported the Renewable Energy Fund, a quasi-government program that distributes grant money to home and business owners that are looking to install solar panels. Juliana supported the fund manager directly with organization and maintenance of applicant files, processing of grant payments for residential and commercial solar energy projects and compilation of reports for completed projects.



Name: Kayla Michaud

Hometown: East Hartford, Connecticut

Major: B.S. Wildlife and Conservation Biology

Expected Graduation: May 2025

Mentor Organization: RI Office of Energy Resources

Kayla worked with the thermal decarbonization team (TDT) at the RI Office of Energy Resources (OER), the state's energy policy agency. The thermal decarbonization team is focused on the transformation of the heating and cooling sector from fossil fuel-based systems to cleaner, more efficient methods, like heat pumps. Kayla developed energy profiles for emerging technologies to share with the public, including information about how the technology works, what it costs, and how it performs compared to conventional technologies.

Name: Jake Curran

Hometown: Richmond, Rhode Island

Degree Program: B.S. Environmental and Natural Resource Economics

Expected Graduation: May 2024

Mentor Organization: RI Office of Energy Resources

Jake worked as the Farm Energy Fellow at the RI Office of Energy Resources (OER), and assisted in managing the Agricultural Energy Grant Program (AgEP) in partnership with the RI Department of Environmental Management. AgEP offers grants up to \$20,000 to eligible farms interested in clean energy upgrades for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. The funding helps local farmers reduce their reliance on conventional fossil fuels, reducing the energy-intensive carbon footprint of RI's agricultural sector.



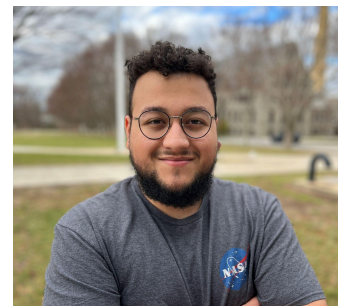


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Name: Matthew Maini
Hometown: East Providence, Rhode Island
Degree Program: M.S. Physics
Expected Graduation: May 2024
Mentor Organization: RI Energy

Matt works with RI Energy's Residential and Income Eligible Program, which is responsible for connecting eligible customers with various forms of aid related to their energy bills and clean energy accessibility. Currently, Matt is working towards optimizing customer outreach as well as studying the program's performance and potential growth. "Gathering and analyzing information is one part I do enjoy, but I also have a strong connection towards interacting and educating the public, especially those with different backgrounds and identities or homes defined as disadvantaged."



Name: Paul A. Barlow
Hometown: Cumberland, Rhode Island
Degree Program: B.S. Civil Engineering
Expected Graduation: May 2026
Mentor Organization: RI Office of Energy Resources

Paul worked at Rhode Island's Office of Energy Resources with the clean transportation team, which focuses on equitably promoting the state's transition to electric vehicles through electric vehicle rebates and other incentives. Paul worked on an outreach campaign that focused on promoting the use of electric vehicles, as well as a project to create a sustainable micro-mobility program for historically disadvantaged communities. His work centered around conducting research to support these programs and writing publicly accessible documents about these programs and technologies.

Name: Tina Munter
Hometown: Madison, New Jersey
Degree Program: B.S. Environmental and Natural Resource Economics
Expected Graduation: May 2024
Mentor Organization: Audubon Society of Rhode Island

Tina worked with the Audubon Society of Rhode Island's advocacy division as a RI Act on Climate policy researcher. Tina prepared factsheets and white papers and researched the future of natural gas-powered energy in Rhode Island, the U.S. and other countries. Tina also participated in Environment Council of Rhode Island and the Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council (EC4) meetings as a notetaker.





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Name: Patrick Feliz
Hometown: Providence, RI
Degree Program: B.S. Electrical Engineering
Expected Graduation: May 2025
Mentor Organization: RISE Group

Patrick worked with RISE Engineering, assisting with the development of a calculator to quantify the potential energy savings for different energy consumption measures (e.g. low-leak dampers, different insulation materials) that will be used by RI Energy. Patrick worked alongside RISE engineers to assess energy saving strategies using the existing calculators RISE has developed with the help of previous URI Energy Fellows Program placed at the company.



Name: Lexi Szabo
Hometown: Exeter, RI
Degree Program: B.S. Environmental and Natural Resource Economics
Expected Graduation: December 2023
Mentor Organization: URI Cooperative Extension

Lexi worked with the URI Cooperative Extension Energy Literacy Initiative, assisting with the curation of educational events for the general public and industry stakeholders, including the annual Plugged into Energy Research lecture series. Lexi interviewed speakers and assisted with content development for and marketing of each program. Lexi developed meeting agendas, created educational content for social media, and wrote draft reports that included the results of evaluation data collected at each event hosted by the ELI.

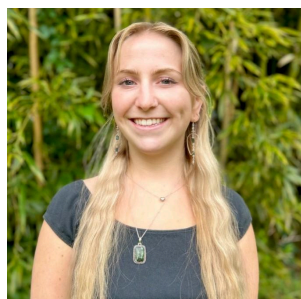
Name: Rafeed Hussain
Hometown: Niantic, CT
Degree Program: Masters of Marine Affairs
Expected Graduation: May 2024
Mentor Organization: The Nature Conservancy of Rhode Island

Rafeed worked alongside staff at The Nature Conservancy of Rhode Island's Climate and Energy Program, advocating for state climate bills during the legislative session. Rafeed attended hearings at the RI State House, conducted policy analysis and advocated for responsible solar siting legislation on behalf of TNC.



Name: Kyla Foley
Hometown: South Kingstown, RI
Degree Program: B.S. Environmental and Natural Resource Economics; B.A. Marine Affairs
Expected Graduation: Spring 2024
Mentor Organization: Rhode Island Energy

Kyla worked at Rhode Island Energy with the Strategic Accounts/Technical Sales Support Engineering department. This department focuses on energy efficiency for Rhode Island Energy's largest accounts; Kyla was responsible for analyzing energy consumption data and





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participating in meetings with various customers regarding energy efficiency upgrades to lower consumption and cost.



Name: Isabelle Gingold

Hometown: New Paltz, New York

Degree Program: Marine Biology; Minor in Environmental Economics

Expected Graduation: May 2024

Mentor Organization: Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM)

Isabelle worked with the RIDEM Ocean State Clean Cities Coalition (OSCCC), which supports reductions in traditional combustion engine vehicles and increases the use of alternative fuels.

The program provides education, outreach and resources to help fleets and/or individuals looking to make the “switch” to a cleaner alternative fuel vehicle. Some of Isabelle's responsibilities include helping develop the annual report, communicating with stakeholders, organizing and attending outreach events, creating social media posts and contributing to the development of the strategic plan.

Name: Jacqueline Osmanski

Hometown: North Kingstown, Rhode Island

Degree Program: General Business Administration; Env. & Natural Resource Economics

Expected Graduation: May 2024

Mentor Organization: Green Development LLC

Jackie worked at Green Development LLC as an intern on their business development team. She worked on organizing information from various projects and researched clean energy technologies with the ability to simultaneously capture carbon from the atmosphere. Jackie also played a prominent role in a biochar research and development project alongside her supervisors. Jackie shared, “My energy fellowship helped me to learn more about the inner workings of renewable energy incentive programs in Rhode Island.”



Name: Stephanie Scymcyk

Hometown: Long Island, New York

Degree Program: Masters of Business Administration

Expected Graduation: August 2023

Mentor Organization: Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources (RIOER)

Stephanie worked at the Rhode Office of Energy Resources, collaborating with policy staff to create presentations, press releases and energy-related data sets and news briefs for use in communicating policy decisions. Stephanie was hired as the Electrification and Program Manager for Clean Transportation at OER following completion of her fellowship.



Name: Joshua Shaughnessy

Hometown: Cranston, Rhode Island

Degree Program: B.S. Wildlife Conservation Biology

Expected Graduation: 2025

Mentor Organization: Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources

Josh worked with the RI Office of Energy Resources (OER), and co-managed the Clean Energy Internship Program, which strives to strengthen and grow the clean energy field to students in college, recent graduates, and hopefully high school students in the future.

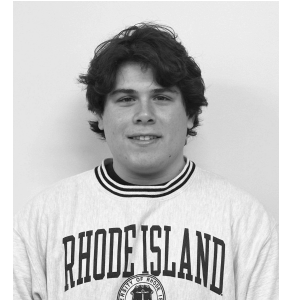




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Name: Samuel Carnevalla
Hometown: South Kingstown, Rhode Island
Degree Program: B.S. Environmental & Natural Resource Economics
Expected Graduation: May 2024
Mentor Organization: Energy Source LLC

Sam worked with EnergySource LLC as an energy management apprentice, validating data and identifying building audit locations. Sam also participated in research regarding energy grants and energy efficient technologies like heat pumps, EV charging stations and HVAC systems.



Name: Jordan Galluzzo
Degree Program: B.S. Marine Affairs, B.S. Environmental and Natural Resource Economics
Expected Graduation: May 2025
Mentor Organization: Optimal Energy, an NV5 Company

Jordan worked with the Optimal Energy consultant team to the Rhode Island Energy Efficiency and Resource Management Council (EERMC) in a variety of support roles, participating in research, data analysis, and public engagement tasks. Jordan piloted an informational newsletter for EERMC members with the intent of transforming it into a public outreach tool in the near future in conjunction with the EERMC's rebranding efforts.



Name: Lindsay Brubaker
Degree Program: Master of Arts in Marine Affairs
Expected Graduation: May 2024
Mentor Organization: CSA Ocean Sciences, Inc.

Lindsay worked on a variety of projects at CSA Ocean Sciences, Inc., including researching and writing parts of the Biological Assessments that are required for offshore wind projects, organizing research articles, and coordinating planning for public comment meetings for the US Wind project off of Maryland and Virginia. Lindsay also completed literature reviews to assist her coworkers in understanding the latest oceanographic studies regarding offshore wind development and impacts on the ecosystem.